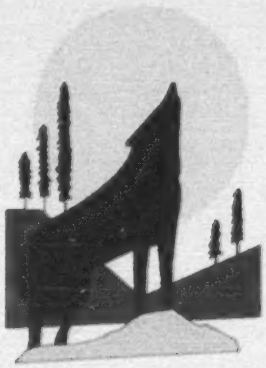
Northwest Territories



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

Northwest Territory Métis Nation

and the

Government of the Northwest Territories

November 2012

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORY MÉTIS NATION
AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

INTENT

The Northwest Territory Métis Nation (NWTMN) and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) wish to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will re-affirm and continue their government to government relationship.

Both governments desire that their governing authorities be recognized and respected by each other.

Both governments welcome the opportunity to deepen their understanding of each other's views and commit to developing working relations that are based on respect, recognition and responsibility.

Each government commits to constructive collaboration and open, respectful communications.

This MOU will guide the working relationship between the GNWT and the NWTMN and, through cooperation and collaboration, help maximize benefits for residents of the Northwest Territories.

PROMOTING COOPERATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

This MOU is intended to advance cooperation between the governments, to facilitate sharing of information relevant to concerns and mutual interests and to enhance productive ongoing communications.

In a spirit of partnership, the NWTMN and the GNWT will identify opportunities for constructive collaboration and ways in which to advance those opportunities.

Both the NWTMN and the GNWT recognize that agreement may not be achievable on all issues. In that case, each government shall respect the position of the other.

MEETINGS OF ELECTED LEADERS

The enhancement of working relationships will be advanced by elected leaders.

- The Premier of the Northwest Territories and the President of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation agree to meet regularly.
- Each government may invite other elected officials and staff to attend these meetings.
- Prior to these meetings, the governments shall reach agreement on an agenda.
- After these meetings, the governments will agree upon a joint summary of outcomes and commitments.

MEETINGS OF OFFICIALS

The enhancement of working relationships will be advanced by officials.

- Officials shall communicate on a regular basis and assist in the scheduling of, and preparation for, meetings of elected leaders.
- After meetings of elected leaders, officials will assist in the development of the summary of outcomes and commitments and will, between meetings, coordinate the necessary follow up work.
- From time to time, senior officials from the NWTMN shall be invited to the GNWT Deputy Ministers' Committee meetings.
- From time to time, senior officials from the NWTMN shall be invited to the South Slave Regional Management Committee meetings.
- From time to time, senior officials from the GNWT shall be invited to Board meetings and Assemblies of the NWTMN.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications will be enhanced, in order to maintain positive and informed relationships.

- In order to ensure that both governments are kept informed, the governments will notify each other of upcoming activities, regional visits and/or emergent issues of concern.

- To facilitate ongoing communication, when departments of the GNWT are working with Métis governance bodies at the community/local level, they will keep the NWTMN informed, via copy of relevant correspondence and communication.

NO LEGAL OR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION CREATED

This MOU is not intended to create any legal or contractual rights or obligations and is not to be construed as imposing any financial obligation on either of the two governments.

Nothing in this MOU prevents the governments from participating in other intergovernmental processes or agreements.

TERM OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This MOU shall be in effect for a period of five years from the date of signing. Upon written consent, this MOU may be renewed for a further term as agreed to by the two governments.

AMENDMENTS

This MOU may be reviewed and amended upon written notice being given to the other government at least 60 days in advance.

TERMINATION

This MOU may be terminated by either party to this MOU upon written notice being given to the other government at least 60 days in advance of the termination date.

SIGNATORIES

This MOU is signed by the Northwest Territory Métis Nation and the Government of the Northwest Territories on this 28 day of Nov 2012.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Honourable Robert R. McLeod
Premier of the Northwest Territories

FOR THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY MÉTIS NATION

President Betty Villebrun
President, Northwest Territory Métis Nation

President Wally Schumann
President, Hay River Métis Government Council

President Garry Bailey
President, Fort Resolution Métis Council

President Ken Hudson
President, Fort Smith Métis Council